

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert the following heading:

--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

--The problem in these couplings is that the flushing medium (air or water) which flows through the cavity of the anchor pipes while drilling and the setting mass (for example cement mortar) which is pressed through the cavity of the anchor pipes toward their front end which is held in the borehole after completion of the borehole can escape in the area of known couplings. In this way losses of flushing media occur ~~escape~~ ~~{sic}~~ and in the case of setting mass with leaky couplings plugs of setting mass form which prevent complete filling of the borehole around the drill anchor.--

Page 1, between lines 11 and 12, insert the following:

--A coupling of the initially mentioned type is known from DE-A-42 20 636. DE-A-4 220 636 shows a coupling of drill anchors with a sleeve with an inside thread and with two anchor pipes which bear an outside thread and which are screwed into the sleeve from opposing sides, essentially in the lengthwise middle of the sleeve there being an annular rib which projects to the

inside, and the front surfaces of the ends of the anchor pipes held in the sleeves being located in the area of the annular rib and directly adjoining one another, the outside surfaces of the ends of the anchor pipes adjoining the inner end surface of the annular rib, forming a seal. In the coupling as claimed in DE-A-42 20 636 there are annular seals located next to the annular rib.

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, delete the paragraphs beginning on line 15 and ending on line 18.

Page 1, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 and bridging pages 1 and 2 with the following amended paragraph:

--Since in the coupling as claimed in the invention the ends of the anchor pipes which have been screwed into the sleeve fit into the annular rib which is provided in the sleeve, forming a seal, and due to the annular seal which is provided as claimed in the invention on the annular rib, the escape of flushing medium and/or setting mass in the area of the coupling(s) coupling is prevented.—

Page 2, replace the paragraph beginning on line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

--If according to one preferred embodiment of the coupling as claimed in the invention it is provided that the ends of the anchor pipes, which ends are held in the sleeve, and which anchor pipes directly adjoin one another with their front surfaces, ~~and preferably it is also provided that the directly adjoin one another with their front surfaces of the outer pipes~~ ~~adjoin one another~~ to form a seal, additional sealing in the area of the coupling is ensured, since between the ends of the anchor pipes located in the coupling the flushing medium and/or the setting mass cannot escape. In addition, this measure of the invention has the advantage that the rotary-impact force which warps the drill anchor when drilling a hole in rock is less of a problem, since transmission takes place directly from anchor pipe to anchor pipe.--

Page 2, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Page 3, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following heading:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--

Page 3, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

--The anchor pipes 2, preferably on the two ends 8, have a segment without an inside thread which extends away from the front surfaces 6 of the anchor pipe 2. This segment without

~~an inside a~~ ~~thread in the embodiment~~ is made with a cylindrical outside surface 12. The front surfaces 6 of the anchor pipes 2 which are made annular have a chamfer ~~22 and 20~~ ~~inside and/or~~ outside and optionally a chamfer 22 inside (Figure 6).--

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning on line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

--In the ~~embodiment of the~~ coupling as claimed in the invention which is shown in Figure 8, in the cylinder surface of the annular rib 4 which points to the inside there is an annular groove [[20]] in which an annular seal 21 of elastic material (O-ring) is inserted.--

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning on line 20 and bridging pages 4 and 5 with the following amended paragraph:

--It should be pointed out that in Figure 8 the annular seal 21 is shown "idealized", therefore with its original round cross sectional shape. In fact, in the assembled state of the coupling it will be deformed in its part which projects over the inside surface of the annular rib 4 into a triangular cross sectional shape according to the outside chamfers 20 on the front end surfaces 6 of the anchor pipes 2.--